

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A protective sports glove having a longitudinal axis, the protective sports glove comprising:

a hand portion including a palm section and a back section;

a plurality of finger portions extending from the hand portion;

a thumb portion extending from the hand portion proximate the finger portions; and

a cuff portion attached to the hand portion distal from the finger and thumb portions, the cuff portion including a plurality of protection sections extending from the hand portion and aligned substantially parallel with the longitudinal axis.

2. The protective sports glove of claim 1, wherein each protection section includes a width whereby the width increases as each protection section extends away from the hand portion.

3. The protective sports glove of claim 2, wherein each protection section includes contoured sides.

4. The protective sports glove of claim 1, wherein:

each protection section includes a length and a plurality of sides; and

at least one side of each protection section is coterminous with at least one side of an adjacent protection section.

5. The protective sports glove of claim 4, wherein at least one side of each protection section is coterminous with at least one side of an adjacent protection section along a majority of the length of each protection section.

6. The protective sports glove of claim 1, wherein each protection section includes a protection side and a flared end bent toward the protection side.

7. The protective sports glove of claim 1, wherein each protection section is pivotally attached to the adjacent protection section.

8. The protective sports glove of claim 7, wherein the each protection section is elastically attached to each adjacent protection section.

9. The protective sports glove of claim 7, wherein the plurality of protection sections is arcuately aligned.

10. The protective sports glove of claim 1, further including:

a wrist portion engaging the hand portion and the cuff portion, the wrist portion substantially covering the attachment between the hand portion and the cuff portion;

wherein the back section of the hand portion includes a plurality of protective elements; and

wherein each of the finger portions includes a grip section and a back section, the back section including a plurality of protective elements.

11. A protective sports glove for protecting the hand, wrist and forearm of a user, the protective sports glove comprising:

a back section including a plurality of protective elements;

a palm section attached to the back section; and

a cuff portion attached to the back section and positioned substantially parallel with the forearm of a user of the glove when in worn, the cuff portion including a plurality of protection sections extending from the back section, wherein each protection section is pivotally joined to at least one adjacent protection section.

12. The protective sports glove of claim 11, wherein the plurality of protection sections is arcuately aligned.

13. The protective sports glove of claim 12, wherein the plurality of protection sections substantially conforms to the shape of the forearm of the user.

14. The protective sports glove of claim 11, wherein the protection sections are elongated in shape.

15. The protective sports glove of claim 11, wherein each protection section includes a protection side and a flared end bent toward the protection side.

16. The protective sports glove of claim 15, wherein each protection section includes a width whereby the width increases as each protection section extends away from the hand portion.

17. The protective sports glove of claim 15, wherein each protection section is substantially bell shaped.

18. A protective sports glove for protecting the hand, wrist and forearm of a user, the protective sports glove comprising: /

a hand portion including a palm side;

a plurality of finger portions extending from the hand portion;

a thumb portion extending from the hand portion proximate the finger portions, wherein the hand portion, the finger portions and the thumb portion each include a back side having a plurality of protective elements; and

a cuff portion attached to the hand portion distal from the finger and thumb portions, the cuff portion including a plurality of protection sections extending from the hand portion opposite the finger portions, wherein each protection section is pivotally attached to at least one adjacent protection section to allow independent deflection of each protection section relative to the adjacent protection section.

19. The protective sports glove of claim 18, wherein each protection section includes a protection side and a flared end bent toward the protection side.

20. The protective sports glove of claim 18, wherein each protection section includes a width whereby the width increases as each protection section extends away from the hand portion.

21. The protective sports glove of claim 18, wherein each protection section is elongated and is pivotally attached to at least one adjacent protection section in a substantially arcuate alignment.

22. The protective sports glove of claim 18, wherein there are four protection sections.

23. The protective sports glove of claim 18, wherein the protection sections are bell-shaped.

24. The protective sports glove of claim 18, further including a wrist portion engaging the hand portion and the cuff portion and substantially covering the attachment between the hand portion and the cuff portion.

25. The protective sports glove of claim 18, wherein each protection section is aligned substantially parallel with the forearm of the user.